

***Amendments to the Claims***

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

Claims 1 to 282 (Canceled).

283. (New) An isolated polypeptide comprising amino acids 1 to 214 of SEQ ID NO:2.

284. (New) The polypeptide of claim 283, consisting of amino acids 1 to 214 of SEQ ID NO:2.

285. (New) The polypeptide of claim 283, which is produced by a recombinant host cell.

286. (New) The polypeptide of claim 285, wherein said recombinant host cell is a eukaryotic host cell.

287. (New) The polypeptide of claim 283, wherein said polypeptide is fused to a heterologous polypeptide.

288. (New) The polypeptide of claim 287, wherein said heterologous polypeptide comprises an immunoglobulin Fc region.

289. (New) The polypeptide of claim 288, wherein said Fc region is a human immunoglobulin Fc region.

290. (New) A composition comprising the polypeptide of claim 283, and a carrier.

291. (New) An isolated polypeptide comprising amino acids 27 to 123 of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein said polypeptide inhibits apoptosis.

292. (New) The polypeptide of claim 291, which is produced by a recombinant host cell.

293. (New) The polypeptide of claim 292, wherein said recombinant host cell is a eukaryotic host cell.

294. (New) The polypeptide of claim 291, wherein said polypeptide is fused to a heterologous polypeptide.

295. (New) The polypeptide of claim 294, wherein said heterologous polypeptide comprises an immunoglobulin Fc region.

296. (New) The polypeptide of claim 295, wherein said Fc region is a human immunoglobulin Fc region.

297. (New) A composition comprising the polypeptide of claim 291, and a carrier.

298. (New) An isolated polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence that is at least 90% identical to amino acids 1 to 214 of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein said polypeptide inhibits apoptosis.

299. (New) The polypeptide of claim 298 comprising an amino acid sequence that is at least 95% identical to amino acids 1 to 214 of SEQ ID NO:2.

300. (New) The polypeptide of claim 298, which is produced by a recombinant host cell.

301. (New) The polypeptide of claim 300, wherein said recombinant host cell is a eukaryotic host cell.

302. (New) The polypeptide of claim 298, wherein said polypeptide is fused to a heterologous polypeptide.

303. (New) The polypeptide of claim 302, wherein said heterologous polypeptide comprises an immunoglobulin Fc region.

304. (New) The polypeptide of claim 303, wherein said Fc region is a human immunoglobulin Fc region.

305. (New) A composition comprising the polypeptide of claim 298, and a carrier.